

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 were pending in the application. Claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 13, 15, 18, 19, 22, 24, 27 and 31 have been amended. Claims 7, 8, 14 and 28 have been canceled. No claims have been added. Therefore, claims 1-6, 9-13, 15-27 and 29-31 are now pending in the application. Reconsideration of the application is requested for at least the reasons that follow.

Telephone Conference

Applicants sincerely thank Examiner Culbreth for extending the courtesy of telephone conferences on August 4 and 5, 2005.

Objections

Claims 1-28 are objected to for various informalities. Specifically, the Office Action objects to the phrase “the lower edge of the airbag” in claims 1, 6, 15, 18, 24 and 27-28 for failure to show antecedent basis. Applicants have amended the claims as appropriate. In addition, the Office Action objects to claims 13-14 for the phrase “a direction of deployment.” Applicants have amended the claims to state “the direction” as suggested by the Examiner. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

Claim 31 has been amended to recite “a deflection element,” in accordance with the Advisory Action of August 1, 2005.

35 U.S.C. 112 Rejections

Claims 15 and 27-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Specifically, claim 15 is rejected for reciting two deflection elements. The phrase “the second deflection element” is clear and definite. Figure 1 shows two deflection elements 26, 27 and is described in paragraph number [0043]. Furthermore, Figure 2 shows two deflection elements, 36 and near element 37. A “cable 20, 30 is guided by means of two deflection elements 26, 27 and 36, 37.” Application at paragraph [0049]. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

With regard to claim 27, the Office Action contends that the last three lines are a double inclusion because "the dart is the component that the traction device loops around; there is not an additional component." Office Action at p. 2. Claim 27 has been amended to read "the component includes a dart." Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 28 has been canceled and, therefore, the rejection is moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

The indication that claims 29-31 are allowed and that claims 7, 18, 19, 22, 24 and 27 contain allowable subject matter is appreciated. Applicants have rewritten claims 19 and 22 into independent format and submit that claims 19 and 22 are now in condition for allowance. The subject matter of claim 7 has been incorporated into claim 1 and, therefore, Applicants submit that claim 1, and its dependent claims 2-5, 9-13, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23 and 25-26 are now in condition for allowance. Furthermore, claims 6 and 15 have been rewritten to depend from amended claim 1. In addition, claims 8 and 14 have been canceled and claim 15 has been amended in accordance with the telephone conference with Examiner Culbreth on Friday, August 5, 2005. Therefore, claims 6 and 15 are now in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Favorable reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of

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papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date August 8, 2005

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